

ASSEMBLAGE & CARVING

Part 1: Carving Assignment Goals

- Learn wood carving techniques used to produce sculpture that is relief ([link 1](#)) and in the round.
- Learn about and follow safe procedures. Limit waste by making preparatory sketches and being purposeful as you work.
- Learn about historical and contemporary sculpture.
([pinterest>sculpture](#))
- Make research and planning notes and sketches.
- List vocabulary associated with sculptural carving techniques.
- Practice techniques demonstrated and work toward developing craft and mastery. ([playlist](#))
- Carve relief and in the round sculptures.

carved sculpture



[Michelangelo's David](#), Italy
[Nefertiti](#), Egypt (1340 BCE)
 (1501CE) Marble, 17' tall
 19", Limestone

Colossal [Olmec Head, Mexico](#) (900BCE)
 Basalt, 12' tall

Subtractive Sculpture & Space

1. Subtractive sculpture involves the removal of material from a block – through cutting, chiseling, chipping, or scraping away.
2. [Wood carving](#), stone or plaster sculpture are sculptural processes which are subtractive.

Other Subtractive Materials: Clay, Chalk, Plaster, Wood, Soft salt blocks, Artificial Sandstone, Soap, Wax, etc.

Italian Renaissance (1300 to 1600 CE) artist, [Michelangelo](#), created his sculptural works carving figures directly out of stone without the aid of a preliminary work (sculpting out of clay or plaster first) and pointing devices. Michelangelo also painted the fresco ceiling and wall behind the altar of the [Sistine Chapel](#) in Vatican City.

“Every block of stone has a statue inside it and it is the task of the sculptor to discover it”

Michelangelo

“I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.” Michelangelo

POSITIVE and NEGATIVE SPACE

1. Space is the area above, below, between, within and around the main objects in a piece of art.

Space is present in 2D & 3D works of art

2. Positive Space-the shapes or forms (main objects) in an artwork

3. Negative Space- the space that surrounds the main objects. It is the empty or non-interesting space

between and around the main objects

IN THE ROUND - (of sculpture) standing free with all sides shown, rather than carved in relief against a ground.



Isamu Noguchi



Henry Moore OM, CH

Animal Head 1951

Tate

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Introducing sculptors Isamu Noguchi & Henry Moore. Observe how they used positive and negative space.

1. Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988) was one of the twentieth century's most important and critically acclaimed sculptors. Through a lifetime of artistic experimentation, he created sculptures, gardens, furniture and lighting designs, ceramics, architecture, and set designs. His work, at once subtle and bold, traditional and modern, set a new standard for the reintegration of the arts. (Show examples of his work.)

2. Henry Moore (30 July 1898 – 31 August 1986) Henry Moore was an English sculptor and artist. He was best known for his semi-abstract monumental bronze sculptures which are located around the world as public works of art. His forms are usually abstractions of the human figure, typically depicting mother-and-child or reclining figures. Moore's works are usually abstracted views of the female body, apart from a phase in the 1950s when he sculpted family groups. His forms are generally pierced or contain hollow spaces showing negative space. ([Show examples of his work](#). [Video of Moore's Sculptures](#))

How to develop an idea for a subtractive

sculpture: <https://mrdeyo.com/moore-subtractive-sculpture/>

Techniques tips: <https://davidneat.wordpress.com/styrofoam/>



Much loved ... Oval Sculpture, 1943, by Barbara Hepworth. Photograph: Bowmead/The Pier Arts Centre



Contemporary Wood Carving by Louis Frechette 2024



RELIEF SCULPTURE - A type of sculpture that is halfway between solid free-standing sculpture and flat painting. In a relief, figures rise up from a background that is flat or has hollowed-out parts.

Information on relief sculpture [Relief \(sculpture\) - New World Encyclopedia](#)
[Go to Ms. Fitzpatrick's Pinterest > Sculpture](#)

Learn how to use varied tools and the process of carving a relief: Step by step directions: [balsa carving .pdf](#)





The
[Benin](#)

[Bronzes](#), made from 1550 to 1750 CE, were looted in a massacre by the British in 1897. Activists are working to repatriate these masterpieces back to Nigeria.

[The Shaw Memorial by Augustus Saint-Gaudens is high relief](#) 1884



PART 2 Assemblage Sculpture (if assigned)

Assemblage Sculpture - a three-dimensional art form created by assembling found or purchased objects, often everyday items, in a way that transforms them into a new, cohesive artwork

Twentieth century artist, Louise Nevelson, is known for her assemblages. [Assemblages with Louise Nevelson](#)

[Assemblage](#)

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4NdGHjR2as-L9RjcWU31xDF5TkW-MJfP&si=LMRf8BfaJs3KDKKB>

examples of wood assemblage: <https://pin.it/7M6AasYM7>

Assemblage assignment goals: Produce a wood and/or mixed media assemblage that is sturdy and well crafted. As you are working, consider your sculpture's message and work to communicate it through choices you make.

steps

- review information on this WOOD SCULPTURE link (see links above)
- make 2 sketches of assemblages (if they haven't been made yet)
- for 1 or 2 full class periods, experiment with the wood pieces and assorted assemblage materials provided (you may also bring in materials you want to use in your sculpture)
- once you know what to do, glue your sculpture together
- painting your sculpture is optional
- post a picture of your sculpture on Padlet





Around Town
Wood Assemblage
35 x 12 x 7 inches

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4NdGHjR2as-L9RjcWU31xDF5Tkw-MJfP&si=HWhk9WXgYX4ILDAU>

